Canvassing of Family Planning by the Artists and Mimes

89. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal under Government's consideration to utilise the services of artists etc. to propagate family planning; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Song & Drama Division—a media unit under Ministry of Information & Broadcasting utilises the services of Artists through its 43 Departmental troupes and 575 (approx.) private troupes registered with the Song & Drama Division. The main function of the Division is to propagate the major national themes, one of them being Health and Family Welfare in rural, Semi-rural and Semi-urban areas of the country in the from of drama, composite, puppet, magic etc. Also the Division publicises the H&FW message through Sound and Light medium.

Making adoption of family planning measures compulsory

90 SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make adoption of Family Planning measures compulsory, irrespective of the religion or caste?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): The Family Welfare Programme in India is being promoted on voluntary basis as a people's movement in keeping with the democratic traditions of the country. For conveying the message of small family norm to the masses, motivational, educational and persuasive efforts are made without resort to any form of coercion. There is no proposal to make adoption of Family Planning measures compulsory.

National Policy on Blood Transfusion

91. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the formulation of a national policy on blood transfusion;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) to (c) The Central Council of Health and Family Welfare is the policy making body on Health and Family Welfare matters. The recommendation of Central Council of Health made in 1982 on blood banking and transfusion services is treated as policy guideline on this subject which is reproduced below:—

"Blood being a vital input in the present day medi-care services the acute shortage of which is hampering the effectiveness of our services the Joint Conference recommends that urgent steps should be taken by the States/U.T. Governments and the Central Government:

(i) To build-up adequate blood banking services at State/District level including provision of trained/qualified man power Necessary action should be initiated in right earnest for achieving the objective in view.